

The Signature

Sigonella, Sicily

Vol. 21 No.13

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TOP STORIES

Americans in Europe must beware of dealers who offer overseas conversions to U.S. standards for cars or motorcycles.

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Sailors participate in memorial ceremony



A member of the Carabinieri salutes at the monument in Serradifalco, which commemorates the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, and Nov. 12, 2003.

Story and photos by JO3 Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

Sailors from Naval Air Station Sigonella (NASSIG) traveled to the small town of Serradifalco, Sicily, on March 25 to participate in a ceremony for the unveiling of a monument dedicated to those lost in the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, and Nov. 12, 2003.

The Sailors teamed up with members of the Italian Carabinieri, the Italian Army and the Italian Polizia Municipale to lay wreaths on the monument after the unveiling. High ranking Italian and American officials gave speeches, which included remembering the past terrorist attacks such as the destruction of the World Trade Center towers and the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001, and those of Nov. 12, 2003, when 12 Italian Carabinieri, five Italian Army and two Italian civilians were killed in Nassiriyah, Iraq.

The small town's residents crammed into the area where the ceremony was held and strained to listen to the speeches. There was a spirit of camaraderie in the air as the ceremony wrapped up and Italians interacted with Americans.

The monument features abstract design on a concrete wall with the two towers represented in the middle, dates of each event on either end and the moment the aircraft hit the towers symbolized with different found items such as car hoods. It was put into an area surrounded by local schools for a reason.

"We could have picked a cozier place to hold the ceremony and build the monument, but this is where all the schools are located," said Bernardo Alaimo, mayor of Serradifalco. "Since we want to convey the message to a young generation, that's why we held it here."

Monument, page 10



Toto Cuffaro, Sicily's regional president, claps as he bows his head during a moving speech at the unveiling ceremony for the memorial in Serradifalco which commemorates the events of Sept. 11, 2001, and Nov. 12, 2003.

PSD celebrate Women's History Month

Story by Alexis James
Staff Writer

Like many commands on Naval Air Station Sigonella, Personnel Support Detachment (PSD) closes early on Wednesday's for training. But this past week, employees of PSD got the chance to enjoy something a little bit different.

In honor of Women's History Month, PSD held a ceremony in a waiting room-turned-mini-auditorium honoring the women that work there, and several other guests.

PNCM Rameses Nabong, from PSD, opened the ceremony by emphasizing the important roles the women in the PSD office play. "We recognize and appreciate the... contribution of our women," he said, acknowledging that they are "proud professionals" that he's proud to work beside.

Women's History, page 12



DK3 Tameka Autry presents CMDMC Elizabeth O'Brien with a present at the PSD Women's History Month Celebration.

Defense Distribution Depot Sigonella activated

Story and photos by JO3 Steve Weaver
Staff Writer



The NASSIG color guard performs during the DDSI activation.

The Defense Distribution Depot Sigonella (DDSI), part of the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), was officially activated March 30 during a ceremony held in the Naval Air Station Sigonella (NASSIG) Supply Warehouse.

The DDSI will be one of the Defense DDSI, page 13



Direct Line

Capt. T.L. Davison
NASSIG
Commanding Officer

John Honeyman, Nathan Hale, Mata Hari, Alger Hiss, The Rosenbergs, John Walker, Robert Hanssen.

The people listed above were spies working for the U.S. and at times against the U.S.

Have you ever been out in town with your Shipmates, started talking about the base and noticed that people started listening over your shoulders? Or have you seen the commercial on AFN of the family getting in the cab and the kids ask their father where he is going next (then the cab driver looks back at them in the rearview mirror)?

These are just a few examples of how people learn about us and what we do here at NAS Sigonella. Understanding what Operations Security is all about and being informed about these techniques of information gathering is beneficial to us all. OPSEC prevents the inadvertent compromise of unclassified indicators, sensitive or classified activities, capabilities, or intentions at the tactical, operational, and strategic levels. Which basically means that a lot of information can be pieced together that could be detrimental to the U.S. and this base.

April is hereby designated as NAS Sigonella's OPSEC Awareness Month. You are a vital player in our success, and we couldn't do our job without your support. You may not realize it, but you also play a crucial role in protecting your loved ones at home and our shipmates on the front line just by what you know of the Naval Air Station Sigonella's day-to-day operations.

The military has always closely guarded its classified information, but unclassified information could be just as damaging if an enemy with the intent to do harm gets the opportunity. Small bits of ordinary unclassified information can be put together like pieces of a puzzle and give the enemy a clearer picture of our intentions and actions.

OPSEC is like insurance - if we use it successfully, your loved ones stay safe and we will likely never know if it was even truly necessary. If, however, our OPSEC efforts fail, the results will become vividly apparent and possibly tragic. Please help us accomplish our common mission goals by keeping sensitive information out of the wrong hands.

USE OPSEC!

For more information on safeguarding base OPSEC, please contact our base OPSEC manager, Lt. Mike Husband at 624-6352 or at opsec@nassig.sicily.navy.mil.

HEALTHWATCH

Provider in the spotlight

Courtesy USNH Sigonella



Lt. Cmdr. Carl Eierle

Lt. Cmdr. Carl Eierle is an orthopedic surgeon here at Naval Hospital Sigonella. He recently joined us from his orthopedic residency at Naval Medical Center San Diego. Dr. Eierle has had a long military career listing prior duty stations as the USS Whipple, the Military Sealift Command, and the 3rd Battalion 1st Marines. His goal is to provide the highest quality orthopedic care for diagnosis, treatment, and surgery to all patients. To provide these services not only for the well being of his patients, but to conserve the fighting strength and support of the U.S. Foreign Policy mission in southern Europe. Dr. Eierle is currently tri-lingual in Spanish, German, and English and in the process of adding Italian. He includes carpentry, woodworking, rowing and his four children as his interests. Dr. Eierle earned his B.A. at Columbia University and his M.D. at USUHS and is Board Certified by the American Board of Orthopedic Surgeons.

SECURITY BLOTTER

CRIMESTOPPER'S HOTLINE
624-6389

March 22 — March 28

The following incidents were reported and categorized as follows:

- Traffic accidents without injuries - 12
- Traffic accident with injuries - 1
- Car break-ins - 2
- DUI - 1
- DUI's 2004 - 3
- DUI's 2003 - 58

**You Drink,
You Drive,
You Lose.**

**Drive Safe
Sigonella**

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NJP Results

E-1 Violation of UCMJ art. 134 (Disorderly conduct).

Awarded restriction to the limits of U.S. Naval Air Station Sigonella (NAS II) for 45 days.

E-2 Violation of UCMJ art. 134 (Communicating a threat).

Awarded restriction to the limits of U.S. Naval Air Station (NAS II) for 45 days; extra duties for 45 days; forfeiture of \$596 pay per month for two months (one month suspended for six months); and reduction to the next inferior pay grade.

E-5 Violation of UCMJ art. 128 (Assault, consummated by a battery).

Awarded restriction to the limits of U.S. Naval Air Station Sigonella (NAS II) for 60 days; forfeiture of \$792 pay per month for two months (suspended for six months); and reduction to next inferior pay grade.

"Tax Freedom Day"



By Chaplain
Joseph
Carlos
Command
Chaplain

Some readers might remember seeing newscasts on their local television stations back in the States that would take place at this time of the year. The camera lights would be glaring as the reporters spoke with the procrastinators pulling up to the city's main post office to file their taxes at the very last minute. Higher consumer spending was recently attributed to possibly taxpayers getting their IRS refund checks and going shopping. Perhaps many Sigonellans are among them. People have studied how many days of the year Americans work to pay all their taxes, and that day is Tax Freedom Day.

The February issue of The American Legion Magazine has an article "Tax Americana" in which we find the following: "In 1900, you would have to work for only 20 days to pay all your taxes. By 1950, that number had jumped to 88 days. By 1980, it was up to 109. By 2000 it was up to 120 days, according to Tax Foundation

accountants..." The article continues: "Over the past 3 years Tax Freedom Day has been effectively rolled back to 109 days..."

Paying taxes supports our country and her defense, maintains health care and school and fire protection districts, law enforcement, as well as parks and services - to name only a few. As members of the military and Department of Defense employees, tax dollars fund our paychecks, provide housing and education for our children, etc.

We read in the Christian Scriptures about Tax Freedom Day! Someone tried tricking Jesus Christ by asking him whether or not they should pay taxes. He asked the trickster for a coin and then asked whose face was on it. Caesar's was the answer. Jesus then said to give to Caesar what is Caesar's, but give to God what is God's. Maybe God knows all the IRS laws and regulations! We can figure out what we owe Uncle Sam. But how do we figure out what we owe God? What can we give God? One thing for sure: there is no "God Freedom Day." We can never reach a point where we can say: "I have given God enough of my time, treasure, and talent that I can stop now for the rest of the year."

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Overseas car conversions not legit

Robert Szostek
U.S. European Command
Customs Executive
Agency PAO

Mannheim, Germany - Americans in Europe must beware of dealers who offer overseas conversions to U.S. standards for cars or motorcycles. The Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) only accept work done and warranted by licensed companies in the United States. They do not accept the work of individuals or overseas companies. You will probably lose the money paid for work done and suffer fines, bonds and storage fees if you try to import a vehicle "converted" overseas. U.S. Customs routinely perform computer checks of vehicle identification numbers to detect false conversions.

"It is nearly always cheaper for people to sell a foreign-specification car abroad and buy a replacement stateside," said Bill Johnson, Deputy Director of the U.S. European Command's Customs and Border Clearance Agency. Shipping, paperwork, and conversions cost at least \$6,500 per vehicle and up to \$25,000 for exotic cars. "It is tempting to save some expense by doing work here in Europe," he added. "But car shippers must realize that overseas conversions are not licensed by U.S. agencies." DOT work must also be warranted for eight years and for a \$2,000 parts defect. Emissions conversions must be warranted for 50,000 miles or five years, whichever comes first.

Under EPA regulations, nonconforming vehicles less than 21 years old may only enter the United States through an independent commercial importer. These vehicles must be tested and

adapted to the emission standards in effect at the time of production. Vehicles that are 21 years old or older do not require tests or conversions. DOT requires shippers of nonconforming vehicles to sign a contract with a registered importer who must certify in advance that the model is convertible to U.S. safety standards. The owner must also post a bond for one and a half times the vehicle's dutiable value. "Vehicles over 25 years old do not need conversion to U.S. safety, bumper and theft prevention standards," Johnson added. He explained that used vehicles rebuilt by the original manufacturer to U.S. specifications can be imported with the proper documents.

Get the "Importing a Car" pamphlet from a military customs office for more information on shipping foreign vehicles. Or consult the military customs Web site at www.hqusaec.army.mil/opm/cars.htm.

NAS Sigonella Worship Opportunities

Catholic Mass
Saturday 5 p.m. Chapel (NAS II)

Sunday 9 a.m. Chapel (NAS I)
Sunday 9 a.m. in Italian 41+
Stormo Chapel (NAS II)
Sunday 11 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)

Protestant Traditional Service
Sunday 8:15 a.m. Chapel (NAS II)
Sunday 11 a.m. Fellowship Hall (NAS I)

Protestant Worship
Sunday 9 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)
Sunday 10:45 a.m. Chapel (NAS I)

United Pentecostal Church, International
Sunday Noon Chapel, (NAS II)

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Sunday 1 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Church of Christ
Sunday 3:30 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Jewish Shabbat Service
Last Friday of the month 5 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Weekdays
Catholic Mass 4:30 p.m.
Monday & Tuesday
11:30 a.m. Thursday & Friday (NAS I)
Monday thru Thursday at 11:30 a.m. (NAS II)
Wednesday Protestant Bible Study
4:45 p.m. (NAS II Chapel)
5 p.m. (NAS I Chapel)
For more details, call 624-4295 or 624-9049.

NAVY NEWS

Hornet pilot unhurt following crash

From Commander, U.S. Naval Air Force Atlantic Fleet

NORFOLK, Va. (NNS) — The pilot of a Navy F/A-18 Hornet aircraft, which crashed the afternoon of March 26 at Raleigh-Durham International Airport in North Carolina, is uninjured. He has been identified as Lt. j.g. Wesley Baumgartner of Yorktown, Va.

Baumgartner was the pilot of the aircraft, assigned to the "Valions" of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 15 based at Oceana Naval Air Station in Virginia. He was part of a two-aircraft flight on a routine cross-country training mission when they made a stop at Raleigh-Durham to refuel. Raleigh-Durham International Airport is a joint-use facility that also serves as a base for local Air National Guard units. The other aircraft landed safely.

Baumgartner was taken to Wake Medical Center for examination.

The accident is under investigation.

For more news from around the fleet, visit the Navy NewsStand at www.news.navy.mil.



Onboard USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75). An F-18C Fighter Jet from VFA-15 Valions, makes it's final approach to the carrier deck. USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) is currently undergoing carrier qualifications and flight deck certification off the Atlantic coast.

Roberts completes record-breaking counter-drug deployment

By Ensign Jamie Letho, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command Public Affairs

NAVAL STATION MAYPORT, Fla. (NNS) — USS Samuel B. Roberts (FFG 58) returned to Mayport, Fla. March 19 after completing a six-month deployment to the U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command Area of Responsibility.

Interdicting 10.7 metric tons of cocaine and detaining 29 suspected drug traffickers, Samuel B. Roberts (SBR) carried out the most seizures by any Navy ship during a single deployment: five.

Beginning deployment Sept. 25, SBR set sail with the Silverbacks of Helicopter Anti-submarine Squadron Light (HSL) 44 Det. 7 and U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) 401. After departing Mayport, the frigate immediately turned south and transited the Panama Canal, bound for a counter-drug patrol in the Eastern Pacific.

On station less than a fortnight, the wardroom and crew was rewarded with its first much anticipated drug bust, seizing nearly 3 metric tons of cocaine and detaining 8 men.

Just a week later, Roberts located a vessel outside of designated fishing grounds operating without navigation lights. After requesting and receiving permission to board the vessel from Joint Interagency Task Force South, the agency responsible for counter-drug operations in the Eastern Pacific and Caribbean waters, embarked USCG personnel from LEDET 401 went aboard to investigate. The fishing vessel had a hidden compartment containing more than 2,200 kilograms of cocaine. The eight Colombian men were taken aboard as detainees.

In the following weeks, Roberts conducted two more interdictions, and just halfway through their engagement in the Pacific, it seemed Roberts could set a new record for most interdictions in one deployment. The existing record, held by USS McHenry (FFG 8), also homeported in Mayport, was four. The wardroom and crew set one goal for themselves - they would get five busts to claim the title.

Two weeks into the New Year, Roberts intercepted a speedboat laden with cocaine bound for North America. The vessel was set ablaze by its crew after being spotted by the Robert's SH-60B Seahawk helicopter, Magnum 450 of HSL-44 Det. 7. Roberts crew fought the fire and supported another successful boarding that resulted in the detention of five suspects. Approximately one half of the 1.5 tons aboard was recovered and seized as evidence.

Roberts' opportunity to attain her goal came a few weeks later when her embarked helicopter sighted an unnamed go-fast on a westerly course. The frigate set best speed

while Combat Information Center watch standers, receiving reports from the helicopter, determined an intercept course. The vessel, which eventually beached itself on the Costa Rican coast, jettisoned her illicit cargo. Five men were captured in Costa Rica, and Roberts, who had marked the position of the debris field, recovered 700 lbs. of cocaine from the Pacific waters.

Additionally, Roberts received Warfare Excellent Awards in the following areas: Engineering Survivability; Maritime Warfare; Supply Excellence; and Command, Control and Communications. The frigate also earned the Type Commander Safety Award, the Coast Guard Special Operations Ribbon, and was named self-sufficient ship of the quarter for FY04.

During a port visit to Panama City, Panama, crew members took time to participate in a community relations project and made repairs to a Panamanian school library. "It was a great experience. I really enjoyed spending my time at the school," said Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Dong Yuan.

Throughout the engagement, Sailors expressed their thoughts on the mission and the ship's performance. Words like "worthwhile" and "fulfilling" were most commonly heard.

"It was the most satisfaction I've had serving the U.S. Navy, because I felt as though my efforts had really made a difference in both the war on drugs and the war on terrorism," said Fire Controlman 2nd Class (SW) Aaron Nimm.



Just as USS Samuel B. Roberts (FFG 58) was in visual range of a 50 ft boat, a large plume of black smoke suddenly appeared on the horizon. The fire was combated with Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF). The crew aboard the 50 ft boat set their boat on fire to destroy contraband. Of the 1.5 tons originally onboard, one half metric ton was recovered and was seized as evidence

The Energy Block

Fossil fuels or Oil (petroleum) and natural gas were formed by complex decay processes from microscopic life forms called phytoplankton (*phyto*=plant) which floated in the world's oceans millions of years ago, just like today's phytoplankton which are tiny floating plants called algae. When these myriads of tiny floating plants died, they sank to the sea floor and became mixed with muds from distant rivers, and were gradually buried. Over immense periods of time, the soft sediments became ever more deeply buried and slowly hardened into rocks. Heat from the Earth's interior and the weight of the overlying rocks gradually changed the energy-containing substances in the accumulated plants into hydrocarbon liquids and gases.

Today, by pure accident of geology, the rocks of the Arabian Gulf area contain by far the greatest amount of hydrocarbon wealth in the world. Saudi Arabia has 35 billion tons of proven oil reserves compared to the United States' 4 billion and Western Europe's 2.2 billion.

The technology of extracting usable oil and gas is hugely expensive whether it is drilling a production well in 100 meters of water, laying underwater pipelines or refining the crude oil. Oil and gas are also the base - called feedstock - for much of the chemical industry. Almost all plastics come from this source.

Burning any fossil fuel means pollution of some sort. Our atmosphere contains nitrogen which unfortunately combines with oxygen at the high burning temperatures you find in boilers, jet or car engines. This yields nitrogen oxides (NO_x) which, like another byproduct of fossil fuel combustion, SO₂, dissolves in rain to form nitric and sulfuric acid... more acid rain! Both gases are poisonous to humans.

Let's use, not abuse

Sexual Assault Victim Intervention

SAVI offers a Sexual Assault Hotline staffed with trained Advocates who man the SAVI Hotlines 24/7. The number is 335-642-8312 or 335-606-6146.

Tridents throw a party for charity

Lt. j.g. Matthew E. Flynn
VP-26 Public Affairs Officer

Recently, the Chief's Mess of Patrol Squadron 26 (VP-26) hosted a party to benefit the Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS). Not only did the "Tridents" raise money for a good cause, but it also gave many squadron mates a chance to socialize and unwind in a tremendous and fun filled setting. The highlight of the evening was a live musical performance provided by the VP-26 Wardroom Band, led by then Executive Officer, Cmdr. Frank Doris. In typical Trident fashion, the party turned out to be an overwhelming success and will be remembered for many months to come.

The Tridents raised over a thousand dollars for the NMCRS through donations for food and beverages. The NMCRS is a non-profit organization that has been providing aid to sailors, marines, retirees, and their dependents since 1904. The Society, sponsored by the Department of the Navy, operates nearly 250 offices ashore and afloat. The Society provides financial assistance in the form of interest-free loans, grants, budget counseling, food lockers, infant care, thrift shops, and nursing services. "The food was great, and the fact that the donations went to the Navy and Marine Corps Relief society made it even better," said Lt. Michael P. Howe a VP-26 Tactical Coordinator.

Although sponsored by the Department of the Navy, the NMCRS receives no funding from the government. The work of the Society is supported by an annual fund drive conducted by the Navy and Marine Corps, and by a direct mail campaign of the Navy and Marine Corps retired community. VP-26 is proud to contribute to this great organization.

Throughout the evening Tridents socialized - playing foosball and shooting pool. The Wardroom band took the stage around 6:30 p.m. and played for hours to an attentive and raucous crowd. The band members included Lt. Gary Costello on lead guitar, Cmdr. Frank Doris, guitar/vocals, Lt. Cmdr. Jay Steingold, bass, and Lt. Glenn Morris on drums. The response was truly overwhelming. Since the beginning of deployment the band has come together to play tunes ranging from Metallica, AC/DC, and Led Zeppelin to Bob Seiger, Jimmy Buffet, and Elton John. Everyone joined in the singing and cheered the band on throughout the night.

As the party came to a close, most Tridents agreed that the event was a complete success. Aviation Electronics Technician Second Class Petty Officer Michael C. Rumbaugh of Combat Aircrew TEN probably summed it up best when he said, "man this band really rocks - this get together has been such an awesome time!" The Chief's Mess, led by CMDM (AW/SW) Aaron Shipley, provided a great venue and superb hosting for one of the best parties VP-26 has had since it arrived aboard NAS Sigonella in February. On behalf of all Tridents, Patrol Squadron 26 would like to wish the Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society much success in the coming year with all their charitable efforts and is proud to have contributed to such a worthy cause.



Patrol Squadron Twenty-Six Executive Officer Cmdr. Frank Doris along with the VP-26 Ward Room Band play songs at a party recently held by the squadron to raise money for the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society fund drive.

Loose lips sinks ships

News Briefs

April is OPSEC Awareness Month

What is OPSEC? Operations Security prevents the inadvertent compromise of unclassified indicators, sensitive or classified activities, capabilities, or intentions at the tactical, operational, and strategic levels. Translation - a lot of unclassified information put together can equal classified. To help kick off the OPSEC Awareness Month NASSIG is having an OPSEC slogan contest. Everyone is invited to participate! Make your slogan funny, straightforward, serious or how ever you want it. There is no limit to how many entries you can have as long as they are original. E-mail your slogan to Opsec@nassig.sicily.navy.mil With the following information: Your name, Rank or position, Command, Telephone number. Winners will be chosen at the end of April so take your time and make it good.

1st - 72 Hour Special Liberty and MWR Information Tours and Travel trip. 2nd - Information Tours and Travel trip and family bowling passes. 3rd - Family movie pass. Most funny - 3 movie passes and 3 bowling passes

Community Passover Seder

The NAS Chapel Jewish congregation is preparing for Passover and welcomes you to join their Passover meal, the Seder, scheduled for April 5. Reservation are required please call Lilach Harris at 624-4291 if you would like to attend.

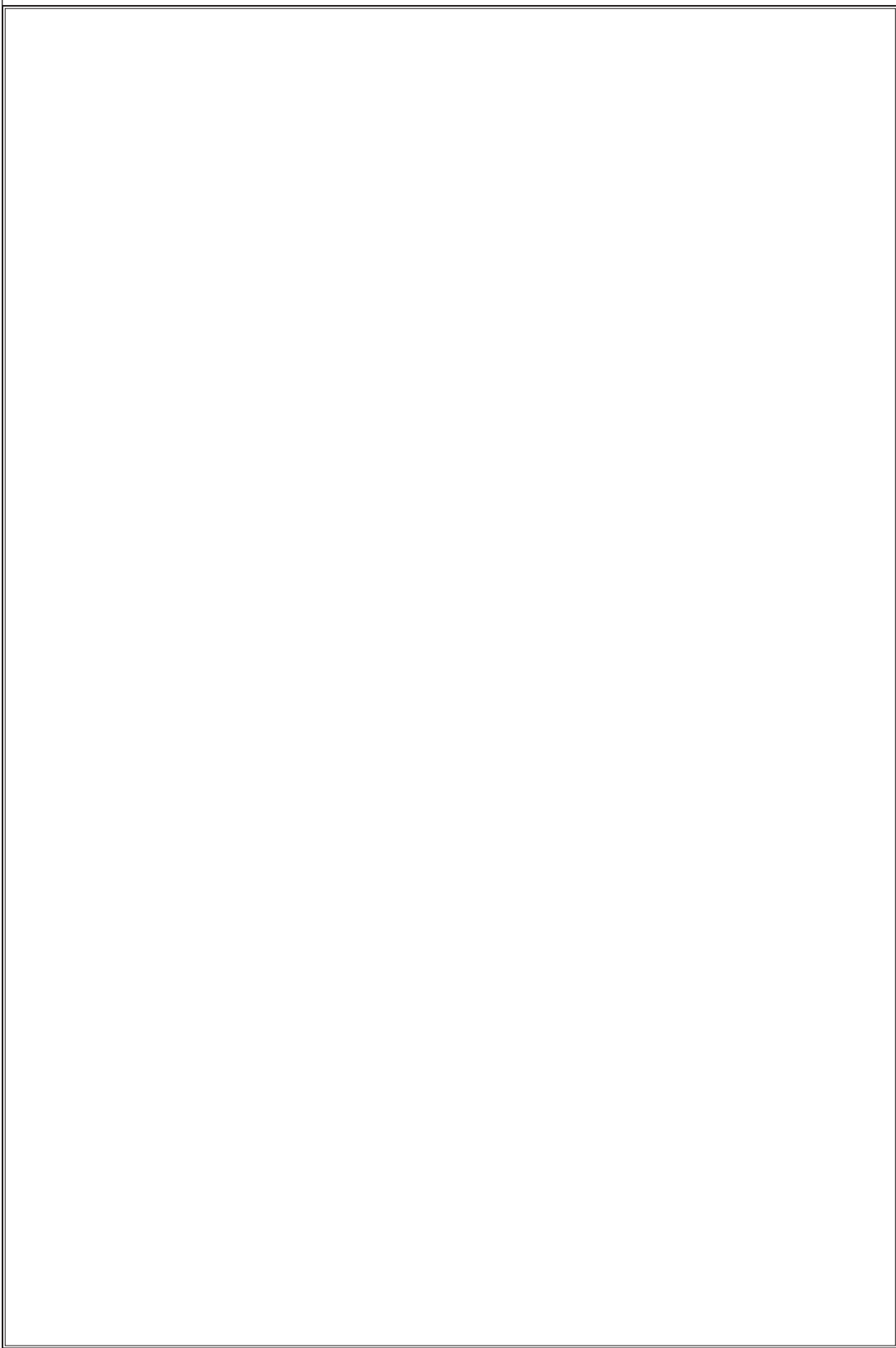
Muslim Prayers

Beginning today from 1 to 1:45 p.m. at the NAS 1 Chapel in room 1113, classroom 4.

Lifeguard Training

Pretest today at 9 a.m. Course will run from April 5 to 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Earn money this summer and have fun too by becoming a lifeguard. Learn the following: to understand the value of behaving in a professional manner; how to identify behaviors of a distressed swimmer and an active or passive drowning victim; understand the components of an emergency action plan and how to activate it; understand the general procedures for water emergency when rescuing a victim; how to give first aid and how to care for breathing and cardiac emergencies; how to care for possible head, neck and back injuries; as well as demonstrate how to perform equipment-based rescues. With successful completion of this course the participant will receive the following certificates: Lifeguarding and First Aid, AED Essentials, CPR for the Professional Rescuer, Oxygen Administration, and Preventing Disease Transmission. For prerequisite information please inquire at the Red Cross office.

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| COMMUNITY CALENDAR | | | | | 2 | 3 |
| | | | | | April | Latino Night Crater Pub. 8 p.m. Free nachos and salsa |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Gangi Palm Sunday Procession & Lunch ITT Call 624-4396 | Monday Night Bingo The Crater Pub Cards on sale 5:30 p.m. Games start 6:30 p.m. | Spontaneous Combustion Live Base Theater 7 p.m. Improv Comedy | Sicilian puppet show ITT Call 624-4396 | Caltanissetta on Holy Thursday ITT Call 624-4396 | Easter Egg Hunt Take 5 Liberty Center. 11 a.m. Call 624-5602 | Community Easter Egg Hunt NAS I gym 12:30 p.m. Call 624-3712 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| Easter in San Biagio Platani & San Angelo Muxaro ITT Call 624-4396 | Xbox Soul Caliber II Tourney Take 5 at 6 p.m. Signup at 5:45 p.m. Prizes | Movie & Munchies Days Mineo Teens Enjoy free snacks and a movie after school. | Navy-Marine Corps Relief 3-day Apprentice Case work training April 14-16, 9 - 4 p.m. Call 624-4212. | Stamping 101 The Works Building 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Sign up by April 13 Call Lana at 624-5271. | Catania History I ITT Call 624-4396 | Babysitter Training Red Cross 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 624-5446 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| Siracusa II & Seafood Restaurant ITT Call 624-4396 | XBOX Nascar Thunder Tourney Take 5 at 6 p.m. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 624-5602 | Healthy Preganancy, Healthy Baby Course Red Cross Call 624-5446 | Hypnotist Chuck Milligan Live Crater Pub 8 p.m. 18 years and older | Photo Safari Meeting 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Call 624-4488 | Taormina by Night & Limoncello Factory ITT Call 624-4396 | Marzamemi Fishing trip AU 624-4271 |
| Sat., April 3 | | Sun., April 4 | | Mon., April 5 | | Wed., April 7 |
| Take a trip with ITT to Capo d'Orlando for some discounts. Easter is coming and the City of Capo d'Orlando is organizing Easter discounts for Sigonella. Almost every town will participate. Call ITT at 624-4369. | | Don't miss the opportunity to experience Gangi's unique palm Procession Parade. After the parade, relax and enjoy Sicilian food at an agriturismo. Call ITT at 624-4369 for more information. | | Monday is bingo night at the Crater Pub. There are cash prizes to be won. Cards go on sale at 5:30 p.m. and games start at 6:30 p.m. Grab the controller and join in on the Xbox Madden 2004 Football Tourney at Take 5 at 6 p.m. Signup starts at 5:45 p.m. Prizes will be awarded. | | Play the Dollar Game and win big at the Crater Pub. Starts at 8 p.m. Wednesday is Karaoke and All request Night at Jox Sports Bar. Drink specials from 5 to 7 p.m. |
| Thurs., April 8 | | | | | | |
| Yeehaw! Pull up your boots, slap on the hat and shine up the belt buckle because it's Country and Southern Rock Night at Jox Sports Bar at 8 p.m. | | | | | | |
| Fri., April 2 | | | | | | |
| It's all Request and Karaoke night at Jox Sports Bar. If you want it, they've got it. Try Shotgun Karaoke. | | | | | | |





By Alberto Lunetta
Signature Staff

Italian News

Sicilian culture and lifestyle

Easter celebrations in Enna evoke ancient Spanish traditions

"Stava Batti Matri dolorosa iusta Crocella lacrimosa comu pentèbbati filiu. U' camì tristi edi afflitta Matri mi Cristo benedèta! Cui settimo cui nonbleo Matri Criste Di fidèli com tandu supplizione?" (With tears in her eyes, the Son of Mary stood near the cross, from which her Son was hanging. How sad was the Blessed Mother! How could anyone not cry by seeing the Mother of Christ in such a sorrow?)

This mournful chant telling about the sorrow of Mary at the foot of the cross is perhaps the most famous of all Good Friday texts that are called *"Stabat Mater."* A genre of Latin hymn, which is annually performed during the *Settimana Santa* (Holy Week) in Enna, originates from Franciscan sources in the 13th century and it means: "the Mother was standing." The text of the hymn has been often attributed to Italian monk and poet Jacopone da Todi (1228-1306).

While seeing Enna's *Settimana Santa* processions, one might think they are walking through the winding streets of Seville. This perception is not wrong as these rituals come directly from the heritage handed down by the Spaniards during their rule in Sicily.

Pasqua or Easter is among the most important events in the city's religious calendar. The processions that take place throughout the week are the highlights of the tradition. Easter week visitors will remain impressed with the splendor of the traditional costumes, the decorations and the intensity of the devotees' mysticism. Every year, thousands of pilgrims swarm Enna to see hooded devotees, belonging to different city's *Confraternite* (confraternities), walking slowly in procession through the streets of the historic center. City bands playing mournful melodies accompany them.

Confraternities are citizen's associations resembling medieval guilds and dating back to the period of the Spanish rule (15-17th century) that still perpetuate the local ancient Easter traditions. Over the centuries, these associations have been tasked with promoting and organizing the city's religious and charitable activities. In the past, they played a leading role in the social life of the town, providing spiritual and material assistance to the poor, the sick and those sentenced to death. In 1740, there were 34 confraternities. Today, there are only 15 and they include *Confrati* (members of the confraternities) belonging to all ranks and classes with the only exception the exclusion of women. In the past, confraternities were mainly composed of sulphur miners and farmers. The color of the dresses and the mantle worn during the processions, have a particular meaning that can be related either to the cult of their own patron saint or to the role that they played in the past.

Celebrations' Schedule

Here are some of the must-see processions and religious performances.

On April 7 at 8 p.m. the reenactment of Christ's passion and death is performed in Pergusa, a little hamlet located about six miles from Enna, whose surroundings host a mesmerizing lake.

On Good Friday (April 9) at 4:30 p.m., the "Confraternity of the Passion" begins the procession carrying the 24 symbols of Jesus' martyrdom that are called "mysteries." They include: the cross, the purse with thirty silver coins, the crown, the lantern, the rooster, the nails, and the scourges. The procession, which leaves from the Church of Saint Leonardo, is headed toward the *Duomo* or cathedral. As the confraternity proceeds in penitence along via Roma through the narrow streets of the city, the other 14 *Confraternite* join in this mournful religious parade. The procession follows a definite order as the confraternities parade from the most recent to the oldest. Over 2,000 hooded

penitents parade, in complete silence, until they reach the Church of Our Lady of Sorrows where a statue depicting the Virgin Mary is preserved. Then this statue is taken to the cathedral where an *Urna* (urn) containing a statue of dead Christ has been previously placed. At 7 p.m., the procession leaves from the cathedral and reaching the Church of St. Paolini near the cemetery, where a benediction is given with the Reliquary cross, which according to the tradition encloses a thorn from the crown of Christ. Eventually, the procession returns to the Cathedral.

On Apr. 11 Easter Sunday, in the morning *Pasqua* is celebrated at the church of S. Salvatore at 10 a.m.

Later in the evening, the *Paci* (peace), a ceremony symbolizing the encounter of resurrected Christ with the Virgin Mary, begins at 6 p.m. Two statues depicting Jesus and his mother are carried on the shoulders of confraternity members and taken from the churches of S. Salvatore and S. Giuseppe to piazza Mazzini where the *Paci* will be staged. As soon as Christ appears, the black veil covering the statue of the Lady of Sorrows comes down. At that point, the statues run toward each other and later are taken inside the Cathedral.

For more information detailed schedule and guided tours' opportunities call Enna Tourist Office at 0935-528288/504892.



Seeing the *Settimana Santa's* (Holy Week) celebrations (Easter Week) is a great chance to understand the Sicilian culture. From April 4 through 11, Enna features one of the most fascinating, moving, ancient and colorful processions in the entire island.

Word Find

Things that swim

A S M S A T D I C U H S B U S C V S S O T L H Y E
S T N N Y G N W V S R E M M I W S E W N G K T S
D E V O B A A P U I Y Y E G Q T W O I O G S V U K T
M V A N I W R F O R E E T X A Q Y K R Y Q O N R H
B K T L A L T G D L T E N U T P E N D N R E U N E
J N E L S O A A P R X I D X R C O F T M V M S R
F E R Z R Q Q E U T R T W H E S N M I O J E N E W
J U L R U U I D S B U X P C T E E A S Z R I J U I
S I A L A Y E O T T E R G A X A N E H M L E M N L
S P M M Y E B L U E G I L L C H W S A R Z V W D L
N A A T D F I W S M X I C F Z O L I A T C R T A I
Y N W E H M I K R A D A J I Q R D M M Q H E G I A
F I R F G O M S R Q M P F S M S Q S B D C A Q J M
T L K P I N R O H J S K F H T E Y N S Q X O Y N S
E Y W D B S D P A W Q P H I S V I I B U S V A W S
U N U W V V H C K Y E M S N C N R H K H P H I Q D
E B B A R C R E T S U B I H D B W F R N D O F T V
S K R A H S W W A U U F G J M H L D N W J T D N
D A E X V R X U B O Q S T X W B A O O D U S M C W
M A R K S P I T Z N N S A U I T L D N A D S A W O
A H H Z E N U C E J Q K C O I G E Q Z O W A F E N
K Y J V K M M P Q C R A P P I E S V S J M B I Q N
R N Y W Z Q Q C W Q W K Y W Q Z S E V E L W P I
E T U H E V O E C M N Q Y N X H V L T H N R A F M
M I G X J B K S P N P Q N Y Y B H X N D P I H S R

| | | | |
|----------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| AQUAMAN | JELLYFISH | PENQUINS | SWORDFISH |
| BASS | JIMTHORP | RAIS | TROUT |
| BLUEGILL | MARKSPITZ | SALMON | WALRUS |
| BUSTERCRABBE | MARLINS | SAWFISH | WHALES |
| CAPTBLOUNT | MERMAIDS | SEAHORSE | |
| CATFISH | MINNOW | SEALIONS | |
| CRAPPIE | NEMO | SEALS | |
| DOLPHINS | NEPTUNE | SEAMONKIES | |
| ESTHERWILLIAMS | OCTOPUS | SHARKS | |
| FISH | OTTER | SUBS | |
| GETRUDEEDERLE | PARROTFISH | SWIMMERS | |

TRIVIA

- 1) What element is not always found in Proteins, Hydrogen, Oxygen, Nitrogen or Sulfur?
- 2) Andorra, Lichtenstein and Monaco are all considered what?
- 3) In 1989 Javier Sotomayor of Cuba became the first athlete to clear what height in a high jump competition?
- 4) What "Star Wars" star was a member of the film "The Big Red One"?
- 5) In what South American country was freedom fighter Simon Bolivar born?

(Answers on page 8)

Movie Connection

SDSS's Theater Schedule

Friday, April 2



6 p.m.
You Got Served
(PG-13)**



9 p.m.
Barbershop 2: Back in Business
(R)**

Saturday, April 3



1 p.m.
Starks and Hutch (PG-13)



3:30 p.m.
Win a Date With Tad Hamilton
(PG-13)**



6 p.m.
The Perfect Score
(PG-13)**

Sunday, April 4



1 p.m.
Catch That Kid (PG)



3:30 p.m.
Miracle (PG)



6:30 p.m.
Barbershop 2: Back in Business
(R)

Monday, April 5



6 p.m.
The Butterfly Effect
(R)*



8:30 p.m.
The Big Bounce
(PG-13)

Theater Closed Tuesdays

Wednesday, April 7



6 p.m.
Along Came Polly
(PG-13)*



8 p.m.
The Perfect Score (PG-13)

Thursday, April 8



6 p.m.
Big Fish
(PG-13)*



8:30 p.m.
Barbershop 2: Back in Business
(PG-13)

Friday, April 9



6 p.m.
Against the Ropes (PG-13)**



9 p.m.
Eurotrip (R)**

*** Future Re-release **Sneak Preview *Last Showing
(All times and movies are subject to change. For more information on the schedule, call the movie hotline at x4248)

SCHOOL NEWS

Scrub a dub dub



The Stephen Decatur Secondary School (SDSS) Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) brought out the hoses, buckets, car washing soap and their smiles on March 27 to the parking lot outside of the Child Development Center (CDC) to make NAS Sigonella cars shine and to raise funds for the PTSA.

Sure Start applications available

Stephen Decatur Elementary School is now accepting applications for the 2004-2005 Sure Start Program. Applications can be picked up from the school registrar, the Child Development Center or the Fleet and Family Support Center. To be considered for **early enrollment** in Sure Start, applications must be returned to the Stephen Decatur Elementary School registrar no later than 30 April 2004. Considerations for enrollment include the following:

- Child is 4-years-old on or before 31 October 2004
- Child in a family with sponsor in grades E-1 to E-5 or GS-1 to GS-5
- Child is of low birth weight – under 5 pounds, 5 ounces
- Child has a parent whose primary language is not English
- Child has a parent who was a teenager when first child was born
- Child is in a family headed by a single parent
- Child is in a family with dual active duty parents
- Child has three or more siblings close in range
- Child has an older sibling with a severe disability
- Child has a parent on remote assignment for 3 or more months
- Child has a parent who has not graduated from high school.

Priority placement is given to four-year dependent children whose sponsor is in grades E-4 or GS-4 and below. Those applicants in grades E-6 or GS-6 and above will receive consideration in August 2004, on a space available and case-by-case basis.

All applicants will be notified of the committee's final decision. For more information, please contact the SDES registrar at 624-4406/3002 or the DODEA website at: www.odedodea.edu/instruction/curriculum/ecs/start2.htm

TV Turn Off Week

The Week of April 19-25, millions of children and adults around the world will turn off their televisions and discover that life without TV may just be more rewarding, fun, and relaxing. The TV Turn-Off Network in Washington, DC, is sponsoring the 10th Anniversary TV turn-off week and hoping that child-serving organizations will get involved and help publicize the effort.

FACTS:

- This year, the average child in the U.S. will spend more time in front of the television 1,023 hours than in school 900 hours.
 - About 40 percent of Americans frequently or always watch television during dinner.
- As U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher said at the kick off of TV Turnoff Week 2001, "We are raising the most overweight generation of youngsters in American history...This week is about saving lives".

SPORTS

Sigonellans drop pins to raise funds

Story and photos by JO3 Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

The Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) Fund Drive switched from the bouncy basketball to the hard as a rock bowling ball on March 27 to raise funds for the NMCRS at the Ten Pins bowling alley.

Two tournaments were held, one a Nine Pin No Tap and the other a Three-Six-Nine tournament. In the Nine Pin No Tap, if the first roll takes down nine pins, it's considered a strike. In the later, frames three, six, and nine are automatically considered strikes.

Teams from Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit Eight (EODMU 8), Base Administration, Security, Supply, COMSTA, NCTSI Det 4 and Operations bowled their way towards earning one of the trophies, but also helping out the NMCRS. Each pair that entered paid an entry fee for participation.

PC1 (SW) Davis Schattschneider, NMCRS fund drive event coordinator, said the tourney turned out better than expected. Not only did the 17 teams that initially signed up bowl, but through command

representatives getting the commands involved, it ballooned to 23 teams. "It turned out excellent," Schattschneider said. "This was just something different. We never did a NMCRS bowling tournament before."

All levels of bowlers took part in the tournament, but it was the most skilled to win each tournament, "We had all different levels of bowlers," Schattschneider said. "But they were helping the NMCRS even if they didn't have experience bowling."

The team of MM2 Patrick Vandenberg and MA1 Ricky Carter, both from Security, took home 1st in the Nine Pin No Tap tourney. The team of OSC Robert Hammel and Sharon Hammel from NCTS took 2nd, and ICC Leon D Brown and HT1 Chad Harris of EODMU 8 took third.

For the second tourney, HT1 Harris guaranteed a win ... and delivered. First place in the Three-Six-Nine Tourney went to Harris and Brown, 2nd went to Vandenberg and Carter and 3rd went to ACAN Stephen Sutton and AC2 Mark Giles of Operations.

Fun was had by all at the tournament. The last fund drive event is a softball tournament today through Sunday at the Mineo ball field.



(Top) First place winners in 9 Pin No Tap Tournament: MM2 Patrick Vandenberg and MA1 Ricky Carter of Security.
(Middle) Second place: Sharon Hammel and OSC Robert Hammel of NCTS.
(Bottom) Third place: ICC Leon Brown and HT1 Chad Harris of EODMU 8.

(Right, left to right)
MA1 Ricky Carter,
MM2 Patrick
Vandenberg,
ACAN Stephen
Sutton (back), HT1
Chad Harris and
ICC Leon Brown
pose with the
trophies they won
in the 3-6-9
Tournament.



Trivia Answers

- 1) Sulfur
- 2) Principalities
- 3) 8 feet
- 4) Mark Hamil
- 5) Venezuela

Navy's Davidson to be featured at both final fours

From Navysports.com

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Navy women's basketball player and 2003-04 team captain Courtney Davidson (Sr., New Oxford, Pa.) will be featured at both the upcoming Men's Final Four in San Antonio and at the Women's Final Four in New Orleans.

Thursday evening, Davidson will take part in the 16th Annual Mountain Dew College Basketball Slam Dunk and Three-Point Championship at the UTSA Convocation Center on the campus of Texas-San Antonio. The contest, during which Davidson will face off against some of the top men's and women's three-point artists in the country, will be hosted by Dick Vitale and Brad Nessler and aired on ESPN later that evening at 9 p.m. (EST), with a second showing of the event to be aired Friday on ESPN2 starting at 5 p.m. (EST). Davidson, who set the Navy Patriot League record for the most three-point field goals made in a career with 245, was the first player in the country selected to participate in the three-point contest.

The remainder of the women's field for the three-point contest includes Amber Jacobs, Boston College; Cathy Joens, George Washington; Beth Jones, Purdue; Chandi Jones, Houston; Vicki Krapohl, Duke; Kelly Mazzante, Penn State; and Lindsay Whalen, Minnesota. Kim MacMillan of St. John's is the alternate.

Mazzante was named First-Team A.P. All-America this year. Chandi Jones and Whalen were named to the second team, and both Jacobs and Joens received honorable mention accolades.

In addition to her appearance in San Antonio, a one-page photo essay of Davidson will run in the official game program for the Women's Final Four in New Orleans. A future helicopter pilot for the Marine Corps, Davidson is pictured standing next to a helicopter and includes a brief listing of her athletic and academic accomplishments. Hers is one of several essays included in the program which highlight prominent women's basketball players on and off the court.

The holder of Navy records for the most points scored in both a season (530) and in a career (1,857), Davidson is a two-time CoSIDA Academic All-America selection and became the first Navy women's basketball player to be named First-Team All-Patriot League three times (2002-03-04) and receive four all-league certificates in her career. Davidson is currently enrolled in the Naval Academy's Voluntary Graduate Education Program, through which she began taking courses towards a graduate degree at Maryland this past January. After completion of her Master's Degree in public policy and government, Davidson will begin her military commitment to the Marine Corps in January, 2005.



Courtney Davidson, Navy team captain, will be featured at both the Men's and Women's final four.

Signonellan earns medal at Military National Powerlifting Championship

MA2 Torey Taylor competed in his first Military National Powerlifting/Benchpress Championships in Killen, Texas on March 13. He entered in the 198-pound weight class and won 2nd place earning a Silver Medal. Taylor competed against seasoned competitors but bench-pressed 396.4 pounds to earn the silver medal. Taylor competed against three-time first place winner Max Ripple (USAF) who earned the gold medal with a 410 pound bench press and 13 other competitors in his weight class. He has competed in several Signonella competitions sponsored by MWR winning 1st place three consecutive years. Taylor is looking forward to competing in Germany this summer and qualifying for the Military National Team.



MA2 Torey Taylor works on his bench press form.

Navy Lacrosse crushes Army at West Point, 18-10

From Navysports.com

West Point, N.Y. — Navy posted an 18-10 victory over Army this afternoon at Michie Stadium on the campus of the U.S. Military Academy. After Army tied the contest at 4-4 in the first quarter, the Mids scored 10 straight goals to earn their seventh-straight N-Star and fifth-straight win in the Patriot League.

Navy's 18-10 victory over the ninth-ranked Black Knights boosted the Midshipmen to 6-1 on the season and 5-0 in the league, as they picked up their second win over a top-10 opponent this year. The 10-goal margin is the largest in series history since the Mids won a 19-9 decision at West Point on April 7, 1990.

"We played extremely well today," noted head coach Richie Meade. "Face-offs were obviously a critical part. We would score and get the ball right back. Ground balls were also extremely important, and I thought our stick work was very sharp."

Nine different Midshipmen scored in the game, as the Mids

posted their second-highest scoring total this season. Navy's offense was jump-started by junior Chris Pieczonka (Hamburg, N.Y./Hamburg), who gave the Mids an incredible edge, winning 18 of his 24 face-off attempts. He also led Navy's domination in ground balls, scooping up 11 of the Mids' 61. Pieczonka also converted one of his face-off wins into a goal, as he scored at the 10:38 mark in the second quarter.

The Mids took the first lead of the day, but Army quickly tied the contest at 1-1. Sophomores Ian Dingman (Deerfield, N.Y./Carthage) and Jon Birsner (Levittown, N.Y./MacArthur) pushed the Mids ahead 4-1, but the Black Knights retaliated, scoring three quick goals late in the first quarter.

Junior Graham Gill (Medford, N.J./Shawnee) then posted his second goal of the day to put the Mids up 5-4 with 1:41 left in the first and kicking off a 10-0 run for the Midshipmen.

Navy shut down the Army offense as the Mids shut out the Black Knights in the second period and took an 11-4 lead into

halftime. After the break, Navy scored three more goals to start the third quarter before Army's Brian Green broke the scoring drought. Navy added two goals late in the third and another pair early in the fourth to take the 18-6 lead. With just under 11 minutes to go, Navy let up the attack and Army tacked on four goals in the last 10 minutes.

Birsner and Dingman each put up a trio of goals and assists, while senior Joe Bossi (Skaneateles, N.Y./Skaneateles) netted three goals and added one assist. Gill finished the day with a pair of goals and one assist.

"If you score 18 goals, odds are that you're going to win," added Meade. "[Assistant coach] John Tillman deserves a lot of credit for our offense playing well. We have a lot of different guys contributing right now."

Sophomore Matt Russell (Madison, Conn./Fairfield Prep) had one of the best game's of his young career, as he picked up 13 saves in 57 minutes of action, including six in the fourth quarter.

The Lane

Intramural Softball

Regular season begins May 3, so get your friends together for so great summertime competition. Coaches meeting March 29 at 4 p.m. at the NAS II gym. Preseason begins April 12. Men's A and B leagues and Women's league. Prizes awarded to top finishers.

Aerobics instructor training

Every Friday and Saturday in March you can get certified to teach spin, step, kickboxing, yoga and circuit training. Classes are limited to 15 participants so sign up today. Registration is ongoing. Call the NAS I or NAS II fitness Centers at 624-4483 or 624-5243 for more information.

3-on-3 basketball tournament

Start gathering your friends for your team so you can show off your team moves and beat the competition. The tournament will be March 29, at the NAS I Fitness Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sign up by March 25 at the NAS I Fitness Center. Men's and women's divisions and the top three teams win T-shirts. Double elimination tournament.



Monument from page 1

We wanted to put together this memorial as a remembrance for future generations."

"I think that this is a significant demonstration of the solidarity between the United States and Italy," said Suneta Halliburton, consul general at the United States Consulate General in Italy, who spoke during the ceremony. "Italy is a very strong coalition partner in fighting terrorism and this memorial to the victims of terrorism just underscores that commitment on both of our parts. I came here purposefully to recognize that relationship because we lost people on Sept. 11 and the Italians lost people on Nov. 12. We are strong partners and any opportunity that I get or my staff gets to underscore that relationship we welcome it."

"We need to be together and cooperate to fight terrorism and make peace in the world," said Lt. Gen. Ottavio Fugaro, a Carabinieri commander. "Terrorism is a problem afflicting the whole world, not only Italy, the U.S. or Spain."

"Our community of Serradifalco was strongly shaken by the Sept. 11 attacks," said Alaimo. He said the monument for the Sept. 11 attacks was planned earlier, but was delayed. When the attack in Nassiriyah occurred, the memorial was altered to include those events as well. "[We wanted] to awaken public opinion to terrorist issues."

"To be able to be part of a memorial for our country

over here in Sicily is a pretty big deal," said UTI William Allen of NASSIG's Public Works Department. "It makes me feel that America is not the only one fighting. Now I know [Italian forces are] out there sharing their part and their people are dying also. We're not the only ones and we shouldn't feel that we are."

One Sailor wanted to participate in the ceremony because she enlisted in Brooklyn, N.Y., on Sept. 11, 2001. SK3 Imarieli Castillo of NASSIG's Supply Department said she was at a Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) waiting to be shipped off when the events occurred. She had to take a bus to Chicago for recruit training. She enjoyed participating in the ceremony. "I was proud," she said. "It was good to know that other countries are supporting the United States [after] Sept. 11."

Halliburton was glad to see American servicemembers interacting with their Italian counterparts. "I think it's wonderful," she said. "I think our relationship is strong. Any opportunity we have to demonstrate our mutual support should be welcome." She added that the military is doing a great job. "Keep up the good work and thank you."

After the ceremony, a local school held a memorial for the victims of the Nassiriyah attacks and hosted a room filled with copies of the fronts of newspapers from all over the world featuring the events of Sept. 11, 2001.



(Above) AZ2(AW) Susan Schmitt looks over copies of the front pages of newspapers featuring the events occurring on Sept. 11, 2001, at a school located in Serradifalco, Sicily. The town of Serradifalco invited members of Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella to a ceremony for the unveiling of a monument commemorating the events of Sept. 11, 2001, and those of Nov. 12, 2003.

(Right) Students from a local school in Serradifalco wave Italian, American and European Union flags.





(Top) Lt. Gen. Ottavio Fugaro of the Carabinieri speaks about terrorism during the ceremony.

(Above) Members of the Carabinieri band play after the ceremony in Serradifalco.



(Right) Suneta Halliburton, consul general at the United States Consulate General in Italy, speaks to those in attendance at the ceremony.



DKSN Cassia Beltran reads the remarks of PSD Commanding Officer in Naples, who could not attend the ceremony.

Nabong read a message from President George W. Bush thanking women in the military for their service. "Today more than two hundred thousand women are serving in the armed forces," the statement read. "We are grateful for their sacrifice and the families that support them."

The guest speaker, Command Master Chief Elizabeth O'Brien, Command Master Chief of Naval Hospital Sigonella, spoke of the sacrifice made by military women in years past. She highlighted the history of women in the military, starting with World War I, when women held various positions during the war but were required to leave the service after the war, through World War II when women were allowed to remain in the Navy, and to present day, when women make up fourteen percent of the Navy's

members. "Today's woman and her role in the military is tremendous," O'Brien states. "It's important for us to continue to understand it's not the gender that matters, it's the fact that they're part of the team."

A team that has only recently included women. Says O'Brien, "We're very new in the history of the Navy... it's important that we remember that and recognize (Navy women)."

And as the women—both Sailors and non-Sailors—sitting in the re-arranged PSD waiting room were reminded of the great women in history, they themselves were remembered. The ceremony concluded with flowers being passed out to each woman in the audience.

Revised Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN) Application Procedures

By Lt. Giovanna Mosca, Tax Officer

Attention all U.S. tax filers with alien spouses or alien dependents who are ineligible to obtain a Social Security Number (SSN): The application procedures for Individual Tax Identification Numbers (ITINs) have recently been revised by the IRS for overseas military members.

First, what is an ITIN?

An ITIN is a tax processing number for certain nonresident and resident aliens, their spouses, and dependents. The ITIN is only available to individuals who cannot get a Social Security Number (SSN). It is a 9-digit number, formatted like an SSN, which is entered on a tax return form in place of an SSN.

What is the purpose of an ITIN?

ITINs are used for federal income tax purposes only. The ITIN enables an alien spouse who is ineligible to obtain an SSN to be claimed as an exemption on a U.S. tax return. It also enables an alien dependent who is unable to obtain an SSN to be claimed as a dependent on a U.S. tax return. DO NOT apply for an ITIN if your spouse or dependent already has an SSN, is eligible to obtain an SSN, or has an application for an SSN pending. It is also important to note that the ITIN does not authorize an individual to work in the U.S., nor does it provide eligibility for Social Security benefits or the Earned Income Credit (EIC). ITINs are not valid identification outside the tax system.

How have the application procedures changed for overseas military members?

The Internal Revenue Service issued a revised Form W-7, *Application for IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number*, with new processing rules and procedures as of December 17, 2003. The new procedures require ITIN applicants to file a federal (U.S.) income tax form with the Form W-7. The income tax return must be mailed with Form W-7 to: Internal Revenue Service, Philadelphia Service Center, ITIN Unit, Bensalem PA, 19020. Previously, the W-7 had to be filed first, which required the applicant to wait for the ITIN to be issued (approximately 8 weeks overseas) before filing the return. Once the tax return was filed, the taxpayer had to wait for the return to be processed and the refund issued. Under the new process of filing the income tax return and the Form W-7 together, the return will be immediately processed after the number is assigned. Some of you have already visited the Naval Legal Service Office (NLSO) to apply for an ITIN in accordance with this new process.

However, the IRS just announced a NEW exception for overseas military members! All U.S. military personnel stationed overseas may apply for an ITIN for their spouse and/or dependent(s) without attaching a tax return (procedure described below). The IRS

suggests, however, that whenever possible overseas applicants file the application with their return so the IRS can process both the application and the return together. Those who wish to file an ITIN application without attaching a tax return should wait for the ITIN to be issued by the IRS before filing a tax return.

What does the application process overseas entail?

Applications can be found at www.irs.gov and are also available at the NLSO. An ITIN can be applied for in-person at an IRS office or sent by mail; however, all applicants stationed at NAS Sigonella who intend to apply by mail should call the NLSO (DSN 624-5258) and schedule an appointment with LT Mosca, who is authorized to sign the application as a Certifying Acceptance Agent before the application is mailed to the IRS. Both the military member and his or her alien spouse or dependent must be present at the appointment.

Along with the completed Form W-7 (except for the signature block and date at the bottom of the form; you will complete this section at your appointment), you will also be required to bring documentation supporting the applicant's identity and foreign status. An original passport is the only document that is accepted for both identity and foreign status. If the applicant does not have a passport, he or she must provide a combination of current documents that contain expiration dates, show the applicant's name and photograph, and support the applicant's claim of foreign status. The IRS will accept a combination (two or more) of the following documents in lieu of a passport: National identity card (showing a photo, name, current address, date of birth, and expiration date), U.S. military dependent ID card, civil birth certificate, foreign driver's license, foreign voter's registration card, foreign military identification card, and marriage certificate. In addition, applicants who are minor dependents should provide either medical records of current (within one year) immunizations or school records (if the applicant attends school).

Important note: Documents submitted must be the originals, certified by the issuing agency, or notarized by a U.S. notary public. Therefore, it is mandatory that you bring the original documents listed above to your appointment at the NLSO, so that NLSO personnel may make certified copies of the original documentation to be submitted with your Form W-7. Documentation that is written in a foreign language (such as birth certificates, marriage certificates, medical and school records, etc.) must be accompanied by an official translation. More information on the procedures described above is available at the NLSO (DSN 624-5258).

DDSI from page 1

Distribution Center's (DDC) 23 Distribution Depots located throughout the United States, Europe and Japan. The DDC is the lead center for distribution for the DLA.

The DDSI was established to provide enhanced distribution services and forward stock positioning support in conjunction with an expanding customer base in the region.

The primary customers will include NASSIGs Aviation Support Division (ASD), Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Detachment (AIMD) and also will service ships and squadrons operating throughout the Mediterranean.

The Navy will not be the only customer of DDSI. "It will primarily be the Navy, but we will be able to now bring all of the parts and support equipment to support our Air Force customers and any Army customers who are transiting this area," said Army Brig. Gen. Kathleen M. Gainey, commander DDC. "We're really excited to have this opportunity to serve the war fighter forward in support of all of the operations of all services that are transiting the Med."

The DDSI was formed because the current command was performing an additional mission for which they were not staffed or funded. "This mission had grown to be able to better support the war fighter," Gainey said. "So the Navy asked the DLA to come over and do what we do best. We have 22 other commands that are purely focused on the distribution mission. This was a joint venture of the command here in

Sigonella and the DLA."

Denise Cordeiro-Bennett, who assumed command of the DDSI at the ceremony, said the NASSIG community will see changes. "Basically the DLA, the Defense Distribution Center and DDSI are all focused on the same thing, which is providing really great logistics support to the customer base that is in the geographic region. So what they should see is some improvement in the tools and the efficiencies that we're using to get materials to the customers. I think you're going to see an expanded presence of the logistics community, more services and more support to the region here."

"I think the biggest difference is that this is what we do for a living," said Gainey. "This is not an additional duty [for us]. We are the distribution experts and I think we will be value added in being able to bring in more stock and be able to service not just one service, but all of our war fighters who transit here."

Both emphasized that feedback is needed. "We would like to hear about our customer support and we would like to learn about additional ways that we can provide even better support to our war fighters here on this island and transiting the Mediterranean," said Gainey.

"I think DLA is going to be a great addition to the community," Cordeiro-Bennett said. "We want to be a good partner and a good neighbor so we're looking forward to being part of the NAS Sigonella family."



(Above) Capt. Tim Davison, Naval Air Station Sigonella commanding officer, Denise Cordeiro-Bennett, Defense Distribution Depot Sigonella (DDSI) commander, and Army Brig. Gen. Kathleen M. Gainey, commander Defense Distribution Center, cut the "welcome aboard" cake at the activation ceremony on March 30.

(Left) Capt. Tim Davison speaks during the DDSI activation ceremony.



Il Mercato

The Signature

Anyone interested in sending ads via email should leave a phone number and point of contact name at sigsignature@yahoo.com. Ads run for two weeks and are run on a space available basis and must be sponsored by active duty military members, family members or Italian National/American base employees.

Ads must be 40 words or less. The Signature no longer accepts ads that bring profit to a business or individual, such as maid, babysitting services or home rentals. If someone would like these types of services in The Signature they can call Jerry Boritzki @ 095-307-412 to pay for an advertisement.

Paid Ads

Wanting to take a vacation but you have no place to leave your pet? Book your Pet-Sitter Today. Call 347-7911051.

Italian Babysitter loving nurturing environment in my Motta home hours very flexible. have references call Monica at 338-9595271 or wk 4311 ext 134

Apr for rent in Motta 2 BDRMS Kit, LVN, Bath, Laundry, AC/Heating, garage, call Rosa X6984 or 333-952-8463

BMW 520i Black 1988 Looks new, A/C. Leather Seats, P/W, P/L. \$2,300 O.B. Call 333273-3562 or after 1700 0933-970525

Red Alfa Romeo Spider 16,000km with new car documentation. US Specs \$25,000.00 Call 335-827-7012

Holiday Apartments for Rent near Taormina 20m from sea Furnished AC TV Satellite Beautiful Sea View For info call 09423791 or 3392486667

Automotive

1995 Ford Mandeo (European spec), 5 dr sedan, metallic gray body, 1988cc hp20 kw97 engine, manual transmission, heat and A/C, power locks, widows, seat, stereo with cassette (detachable face), \$3000. call 095-755-3008

1984 BMW 316 I metallic grey, excellent conditions! Asking \$ 1500. if interested call dante at 347-7252937 or 6246041

1963 Fiat 500 Giardanetta Excellent condition Euro 4500.000 349-3992681

1994 BMW 318i Black, 4 doors, Km 93000, Full Optional, ABS, Air Bag, Automatic A/C, Stereo+CD Changer, Alarm, European Specs, Manual transmission, Great Conditions...For Sale Euro 6500,00 / \$ 8292,00, OBO, Call Rick DSN: 624-4690 (08:00-16.45) / Cell: 338/5326171 (after 16.45)

1994 SAAB 9000 Turbo Fully Loaded, to include Leather Interior, ABS, Airbags, Climate Control, New Clutch, Battery, Timing Belt, Tune up, Fluids & filters, brakes Asking 3900.00 euros. Call 340 600 3960.

1989 BMW 535i dark grey,A/C, power locks and windows, alarm,leather seats, full optional. Asking \$2000 for info call dante 347-7252937 or 6246041

1991 Mercedes Benz 300 CE Sportline Manual, Great conditions. Dark Gray with BIK leather interior. Brand new Tires A/C,P/W, Orthopedic driver's seat. Alloy rims. \$5900 OBO Call for test drive. 3356428237

1990 BMW 320i: Grey 4dr with 174,500KM. 5 speed, needs no work best 320 on the island, bought from an 82 year old man who treated it like a baby. AFI cover plated, Asking \$4000 OBO. Call Rick @ 624-0621(nights)624-6825(Days)

1988 FiatPanda 750 4cyl. 4 speed manual. Good condition, Extremely reliable. \$1,200 O.B.O. Call david at 340-5930612 or 624-7003.

1987 Peugeot 205 205 1.4 SX Motor and Body in excellent codition. New tires Asking \$850. Call orazio at 3409026556.

2001 Yamaha R1 blue/white excellent condition. Leo Vinci pipe and dyno jet kit, racing air filter, new tires, helmets and more. Bike has only 5000 miles and is U.S. spec. Asking \$8000 call AM2 Licata at X6102 or 3392024515.

1988 SAAB 9000i asking \$2500. AFI plated. Call 624-1382.

1990 Lancia Thema 2000cc, 16 valve. Color blue, general good conditions: new tires, A/C... Asking 1,900,00 Euro. Call Maria at x5781 or 338/1083531.

1987 Saab Turbo White 9,000 Good Condition. Leather interior, power everything. \$1,500. For info call Hector at 347-402-6411 or x5568/x6567.

1996 Opel Tigra 4 cylinder 99.770 Km. Very good condition, manual transmission, power steering/windows/locks, AC, stereo/cassette player. Asking 6,000 Euro. Call Elisa at wk 624-3986 or 3380 or cell 3998092915(before 11 or after 19:30)

1994 Alfa Romeo 155 1.7ltr. 4-dr. 189,000km/117,000 miles. New A/C. New Clutch. Dark Blue. AFI Plates. Safety inspection complete. Runs great! Must sell! \$2500 O.B.O. Call x2995 during working hours or cell 339-8881722 anytime.

1992 Lancia Dedra 1.6ltr, Blue, 94,000km, Climate Control, PS/PW/CL. New Timing Belt, Oil, Filters, Tune Up. 2900.00 euros. Call 624-5360.

Pets

Free 5 yr old husky/shepard mix. Very loving. Call Tina at 624-3574 or come by 205 housing 314D to see. Will pay you fifty dollars also.

Peppy male with lots of energy needs home with energetic kids or active adults. Very obedient, gentle with children; medium sized; tan with brindle markings. Call or e-mail for a picture. 624-1343 or battlesondeb@yahoo.com

For Sale

For Sale Italian white bedroom set with 2 twin beds, nightstand, bookshelf, shelf, large amore with nine drawers and sliding doors with full mirror. 8.4x9 FT. \$300 call 095-755-3008

Car Accessories: JVC Car Stereo(22Wx4) & Kenwood Car Stereo(35Wx4). Both are AM/FM/ Tape Deck/CD Changer Compatible and both are selling for \$60 each. Alpine Equalizer for \$75. call 624-3634.

House full of natural colored rugs. Three 6 x 9's; 3 runners; 1 door mat. Asking \$220 Call or e-mail for pictures. 624-1343 or battlesondeb@yahoo.com

John Lennon by Carters high chair; \$35; Maya Wrap baby sling with video, \$30; Ab Doer with video; \$40. Call or e-mail for pictures. 624-1343 or battlesondeb@yahoo.com

WOMENS UNIFORMS 42S coveralls (slightly used) w/3rd class \$10; 42 L coveralls (good condition)w/ 3rd class \$15; MATERNITY:Large short sleeved dungaree set w/3rd class, \$25; CNT 18 white skirt and 20 shirt set, \$25. Call 624-1343 or e-mail battlesondeb@yahoo.com.

PCSing sale. Proform Strength and aerobic training crosstrainer treadmill. Has a bench on other side. It works great except it needs a new belt. Bought 4 years ago for \$999.00 Will sell for \$100 O.B.O. Call 624-0126.



Send Il Mercato advertisements to sigosignature@yahoo.com

PSCing. Selling Eclipse 2000 Elliptical Trainer. Total body workout machine. It's 5 months old and has been used only a few times. Looks brand new. Bought for 379.99 at the NEX. Will sell for \$250.00. Call 624-0126.

Twin bed and box spring mattress set with metal frame \$100.00. Please call Marsha 624-2446

Aprilia Gulliver scooter 50 cc, very good on gas for downtown, only 1.800\$ OBO, kept in garage, perfect conditions, only 2.000 miles, call Frank 333-2288597

Naples Italian hand made and assembled Presepe/ Nativity. Very large and unique display piece. Measures 4 ft high, 4 ft long and 2 1/2 ft wide. Working lights throughout, running waterfall, terra cotta handmade figures (over 50 individual pieces and larger pieces) as well as other pieces. Includes nativity scene figures. Make offer! Call 095-472-199 or 3488040463.

Italian 220 light fixtures, 220 bulbs, extension cords and adapters, Italian phone accessories, 220 curling iron, fan, up to \$5; Multicompartiment O'Sullivan computer work station/desk, \$100; bookshelves, from \$25; bathroom vanity w/lights, mirror, \$10; call 095-472-199 or 3488040463.

Complete master bedroom including carpets, entrance, sofa, glass cabinet, two carpets all in Italian style. For more information call 340-9234432.

2 Matching Persian Carpets "TABRIZ" Beautiful Condition! 4x6 and 6x9 Fish design, Wool on Cotton, Light Browns, Tan's, Blue's Excellent Price \$3800.00 Call 335336428.

Portable upright A/C on wheels "Windchaser" (Summer's coming!!) 1 year old 110V "super quiet" w/remote control (sleep and timer functions) Purchase price new \$525.00 Selling Price \$325.00 Call 335336428

AFN decoder for sale. Only 6 months old. Asking \$400. Call x1469 or 340-090-2033.

Two Dacor dive tanks for sale, certification up to date. Have certification papers. Tanks are in great shape. \$55.00 each. Call Mike at 624-5357 or after 1700 at 095-271705.

Large 1 year old computer desk \$75, Sony 3 Disc Shelf Stereo system \$200, Stereo Receiver

and 5 Disc CD Changer \$50, IOmega 4x DVD+-RW recorder(used only 3 months) \$150, Leather Desk Chair \$70. Call Zack Sionakides @ 340-593-0607. Sale good until April 5.

Stage 9 Independent Skateboard trucks. The trucks are brand new and never used. They are silver with 129 mm/7.75 in. axle -asking \$30; Thomas the Tank Engine die cast trains - huge selection. \$5 each; Sega game system w/10 games - \$35. Super Nintendo system w/ 6 games - \$25 Call 095-472-199 or 348-804-0463.

Home stereo 5 disc JVC CD player with remote asking \$ 30.00. Call Lou at 624-0189.

Wanted

School Book- Schaefer, R.T.(2005). Sociology (9th ed.). NY:McGraw-Hill. Call 095-56-3537.

Italian lady would like to exchange English lesson with Italian lesson. POC Carmelo at 349/2936727

Jogging stroller in good condition. Also, want to buy Baby Einstein or similar educational DVD's (no VHS), CD's and books. Please contact Michelle at 624-0165

Someone to teach me how to play my banjo. Bought thinking I could teach myself, but need help. Its a 5-string, open back. Will pay for lessons. Call Jessica at x6512 or 339-294-3213

Someone to help clean my house in 205. Will pay. American or Italian is ok. Please call X3525 / 095563525 between 5p.m. and 9:30 p.m. M-F.

Found

Motorola cellular phone found approximately 3 weeks ago at the base theatre. Please call X624-1561.

Two bags of pet food in the bottom of a shopping cart at the Commissary parking lot on 16 March 2004. Call Carl or Katrina to claim at 624-1227 or 095-86-1227.

Jobs

Be part of a team committed to supporting the USN and your family! Navy Exchange Sigonella is currently looking for prospective associates To fill the following positions: Sales Clerk, Store Worker, and Vending Machine Attendant. For

more information, visit the Personnel Office on the second floor of The main Navy Exchange, or contact Enzo Curcuruto or Sherleen Espinosa at 624-4275/4276.

The US Naval Hospital, Sigonella, is soliciting for one part-time personalized service contract for a medical surgical unit registered nurse. Closing date 13 April. Sources must be eligible for US employment and US board certified. Solicitation packages are available at the supply department, purchasing office, NAS II. Call Mr. Barbagallo at 624-5725 and Nellie Barone at 624-3791.

MWR is hiring. Positions include: Rec Aids and Equipment Mechanic at the Fitness Centers, Cashiers at the Theater and at the Bowling Center and Rec Aids at the Youth/Teen Center

HRO

Electrician, UC-2805-06, Public Work Department, Operations Division, Maintenance Branch, Electrical Section, Low Voltage; Announcement number LN004-027111. Closing April 6.

Recreation Aid, GS-0189-03, MWR

Department, Recreation Services Division, Youth Activities Branch, various location, Sigonella. Announcement number SIG03-RECAID. Open Continuous.

Education AID/Technician, GS-1702-03/04, MWR Department, Child Development Center. Announcement number SIG03-EDTECH. Open Continuous.

Religious Education Director (Catholic), GS-1702-05/07, Chaplain Department, Sigonella. Announcement number SIG04-026294. Open Until Filled.

Supervisory Recreation Specialist, GS-0188-09, MWR Department, Recreation Division, Community Activities Branch. Announcement number SIG04-027234. Closing April 2.

Supervisory Firefighter, GS-081-08, Fire & Emergency Services Department, Operations Division. Announcement number SIG04-027279. April 8.

Supervisory Public Affairs Specialist, GS-1035-09, MWR Department, Marketing Division. Announcement SIG04-027300.

Public Notice of Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) Survey

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) and the Navy Medical Inspector General (MEDINSGEN) will conduct a joint accreditation survey of Naval Hospital Sigonella, to include Branch Medical Clinics Souda Bay and Bahrain, from 28 April 04 to 5 May 04.

The purpose of the survey will be to evaluate the organization's compliance with nationally established Joint Commission and United States Navy standards. The survey results will be used to determine whether, and the conditions under which, accreditation should be awarded to the organization.

Joint Commission standards deal with organizational quality of care issues and the safety of the environment in which care is provided. Anyone believing that he or she has pertinent and valid information about such matters may request a public information interview with the Joint Commission's field representatives. Information presented at the interview will be carefully evaluated for relevance to the accreditation process. Requests for a public information interview with JCAHO must be made in writing and should be sent to the Joint Commission no later than five working days before the survey begins. The request must also indicate the nature of the information to be provided at the interview. Such requests should be addressed to:

Division of Accreditation Operations
Joint Commission on Accreditation of
Healthcare Organizations
One Renaissance Boulevard
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

The Joint Commission will acknowledge such requests in writing or by telephone and will inform the organization of the request for any interview. The organization will, in turn, notify the interviewee of the date, time, and place of the meeting.

Concerns may also be brought to the attention of the Medical Inspector General by calling 1-800-637-6175 or DSN 312-295-9018.

